

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for generating fictitious computer file system content for a computing system configured to provide, to an intruder who has gained or is attempting to gain unauthorized access to a network with which the computing system is associated, a deception environment in which the intruder is allowed to access at least part of the generated fictitious computer file system content to keep the intruder from gaining access to a protected network resource located outside the deception environment, comprising:

creating a plurality of templates;

providing a collection of data items available to be inserted into the templates;

selecting one or more of said templates; and

for each template selected:

automatically selecting at least one data item from the collection; and

populating the template with the at least one data item from the

collection[[]];

wherein for at least one selected template, selecting the at least one data item is based at least in part on the relative probability of occurrence of the at least one data item to make the deception environment more realistic by ensuring that data items occur with the frequency one would expect in a real, non-deception computing environment associated with network.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the collection of data items comprises one or more names.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the collection of data items comprises one or more dates.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one template is an e-mail message requiring at least one item of data to be complete.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one template is a word processing document requiring at least one item of data to be complete.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one template is a spreadsheet requiring at least one item of data to be complete.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein for at least one selected template the step of populating comprises receiving a number from a random number generator.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the random number generator is a pseudo random number generator.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the pseudo random number generator employs a unique key to generate numbers.
10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein for at least one selected template the step of populating comprises correlating a random number to an item of data in the collection.
11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein for at least one selected template the step of populating comprises inserting an item of data into the template.
12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising intentionally including at least one spelling error in at least one template to make the deception environment appear more realistic by ensuring that at least some of the generated file system content is not entirely free of spelling errors.
13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising intentionally altering at least one populated template to introduce at least one spelling error to make the deception environment appear more realistic by ensuring that at least some of the generated file system content is not entirely free of spelling errors.
14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein a random number is used to determine what the at least spelling error will be.
15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising intentionally introducing at least one grammatical error into at least one populated template to make the deception environment appear more realistic by ensuring that at least some of the generated file system content is not entirely free of grammatical errors.

16. (Canceled)
17. (Canceled)
18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein for at least one selected template, selecting the at least one data item is a function of (1) a random number and (2) the relative probability of occurrence of the at least one data item.
19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein a pseudo random number generator provides the random number.
20. (Canceled)
21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising associating a probability of occurrence with each template and wherein selecting one or more of said templates is based at least in part on the associated probability of occurrence.
22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one template requires that at least two items of data be compatible with one another.
23. (Currently Amended) A system for generating fictitious computer file system content for a computing system configured to provide, to an intruder who has gained or is attempting to gain unauthorized access to a network with which the computing system is associated, a deception environment in which the intruder is allowed to access at least part of the generated fictitious computer file system content to keep the intruder from gaining access to a protected network resource located outside the deception environment, comprising:
- a computer configured to:
 - select one or more of a plurality of templates; and
 - for each template selected:
 - automatically select at least one data item from a collection of data items available to be inserted into the template; and
 - populate the template with the at least one data item from the collection; and
 - a database configured to store the collection[.];
- wherein for at least one selected template, selecting the at least one data item is based at least in part on the relative probability of occurrence of the at least one data item to make the deception environment more realistic by ensuring that data items occur with

the frequency one would expect in a real, non-deception computing environment associated with network.

24. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for generating fictitious file system content for a computer for a computing system configured to provide, to an intruder who has gained or is attempting to gain unauthorized access to a network with which the computing system is associated, a deception environment in which the intruder is allowed to access at least part of the generated fictitious computer file system content to keep the intruder from gaining access to a protected network resource located outside the deception environment, the computer program product being embodied in a computer readable medium and comprising computer instructions for:

selecting one or more of a plurality of templates; and

for each template selected:

automatically selecting at least one data item from a collection of data items available to be inserted into the template; and

populating the template with the at least one data item from the collection[[]];

wherein for at least one selected template, selecting the at least one data item is based at least in part on the relative probability of occurrence of the at least one data item to make the deception environment more realistic by ensuring that data items occur with the frequency one would expect in a real, non-deception computing environment associated with network.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the collection includes at least one data item that is not fictitious.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the deception environment is on a server.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the deception environment is on a PC.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the deception environment is part of a trap system.